

## Full Set Lessons & Prayers III after Pentecost/Fathers' Day

June 21, 2020

### First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13

*Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.*

<sup>7</sup>O LORD, you have enticed me,  
and I was enticed;  
you have overpowered me,  
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;  
everyone mocks me.

<sup>8</sup>For whenever I speak, I must cry out,  
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"  
For the word of the LORD has become for me  
a reproach and derision all day long.

<sup>9</sup>If I say, "I will not mention him,  
or speak any more in his name,"  
then within me there is something like a burning fire  
shut up in my bones;  
I am weary with holding it in,  
and I cannot.

<sup>10</sup>For I hear many whispering:  
"Terror is all around!  
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
All my close friends  
are watching for me to stumble.  
"Perhaps he can be enticed,  
and we can prevail against him,  
and take our revenge on him."

<sup>11</sup>But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;  
therefore my persecutors will stumble,  
and they will not prevail.  
They will be greatly shamed,  
for they will not succeed.  
Their eternal dishonor  
will never be forgotten.

<sup>12</sup>O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous,  
you see the heart and the mind;  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.

<sup>13</sup>Sing to the LORD;

praise the LORD!  
For he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hands of evildoers.

The Word of the LORD:  
**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18**

*Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)*

<sup>7</sup>Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,  
and shame has covered my face.

<sup>8</sup>**I have become a stranger to my own kindred,  
an alien to my mother's children.**

<sup>9</sup>Zeal for your house has eaten me up;  
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

<sup>10</sup>**I humbled myself with fasting,  
but that was turned to my reproach...**

<sup>16</sup>Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;  
in your great compassion, turn to me.

<sup>17</sup>**Hide not your face from your servant;  
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.**

<sup>18</sup>Draw near to me and redeem me;  
because of my enemies deliver me.

### **Second Reading: Romans 6:1b-11**

*In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.*

<sup>1b</sup>Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the LORD: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

## Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39

*Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.*

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>24</sup>“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup>it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

<sup>26</sup>“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup>What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup>Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup>Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup>And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup>So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup>“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; <sup>33</sup>but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup>“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

<sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father,  
and a daughter against her mother,  
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

<sup>36</sup>and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

<sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; <sup>38</sup>and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The Gospel of the LORD:  
**PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

## Prayers of Intercession

When I say, “Hear us, O God,” you respond, “**Your mercy is great.**”

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence is held as we gather our prayers.*

Expansive God, you bring diverse voices together to form your church. Open our hearts and unstop our ears to learn from one another, that differences might not overshadow our baptismal unity.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Providing God, your creation shows us that life arises also out of death. Renew the places where our land, air, and waterways have been ill and dying. *pause*

Direct the work of all who care for birds and their habitats.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Protecting God, sustain and keep safe all who work to defend others, in this and every place. *pause*

We remember children learning to come to the aid of classmates  
who are being taunted

We lift into your special care police officers and others  
who are being asked to break the code of silence  
that has long protected wrong-doers:

for their courage to stand for what is right; for their protection

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, you promise to be with all who are persecuted for your sake.

Guide all who speak your word, both in season and out of season.

Console any who are targeted for being who they are.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate God, you are with us and we are never alone. Bless all fathers, grandfathers, and those who have been like a father to us, who strive to lead, guide, love, provide and nurture us as you do.

Sustain all who long yet to be fathers and all for whom this day is difficult.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Hear now the prayers of our hearts as we offer them before you: *pause*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Reigning God, you bless us with guides and caretakers in the faith. As we give thanks for those who have died *pause* increase our care for one another until we walk with them in the fullness of your glory.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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Prayers adapted by Interim Pastor Janet S. Peterman

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